

His life in ruin, Reverend Sherriff borrowed money to buy a restaurant. This venture eventually expanded to five extremely successful eateries. During this time, he also financed a homosexual hotline in Spokane, Washington, taught nursing for the state of Washington, and volunteered his time to help the needy and hungry.

In 1983, Reverend Sherriff attended a service at Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church in Spokane, Washington. Because of this open and caring environment, he was convinced to rejoin the ministry.

Reverend Sherriff briefly served as a pastor of the MCC church in Boise, Idaho, and he served as District Coordinator of the Northwest District, Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches from 1987–1992. From 1990 to 1992, Reverend Sherriff served as Executive Director of the Hope House, a low-rent residence facility operated by Loaves and Fishes.

Edward Sherriff began his tenure as Associate Pastor of River City Metropolitan Community Church in Sacramento in 1987. His office was located in the church building in Oak Park, a multicultural community in a depressed area of Sacramento. He made a practice of inviting cold and hungry people off the street to come in for a cup of hot coffee. As the news spread, more and more people began to flock to the Reverend's door.

Due to his nursing background and interest in feeding the needy, nutritional concerns were of utmost importance in formulating his outreach to the community. In 1990, he began cooking a pot of soup for the 10 or 20 hungry people who had nowhere else to go for a warm meal.

In the early 1990's Reverend Sherriff and MCC began the Samaritan Center to provide help for the needy regardless of religious affiliation, race, creed, sex, or sexual orientation. The Samaritan Center used volunteers and the church's kitchen to prepare the meals and used the church's social hall to serve the meals. The number of hungry people continued to grow, and in 1992, Reverend Sherriff resigned his District Coordinator position and dedicated his time to the Samaritan Center.

In 1994, MCC's Activities Building, which housed the Samaritan Center, burned to the ground. At the time, the Samaritan Center was providing about 400 hot meals per day. As a result, the center was promptly moved to a new location and continued the services to the community. In September of 1999, the Samaritan's Food Bank program, together with Reverend Sherriff's coffee shop, had helped feed over 4,200 people.

Mr. Speaker, as the community of Sacramento gathers to mourn the loss of one of its finest citizens, I am honored to pay tribute to Reverend Edward R. Sherriff. His tireless service to the community and people of Sacramento will be dearly missed. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in mourning his loss and celebrating his achievements.

HONORING WWI VETERAN, JOHN STRONG

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 1, 1999*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor World War I veteran, John

Strong, Mess Attendant 3rd Class, U.S. Navy. The Government of France has approved Mr. Strong for the award of The National Order of the Legion of Honor.

The National Order of the Legion of Honor is the highest honor France bestows on its citizens and foreign nationals. It is presented in gratitude for the American valor in France during World War I and in recognition of the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918.

John Strong is 101 years old, and a long time resident of Fresno and the San Joaquin Valley. He served as a Mess Attendant 3rd Class with the U.S. Navy in World War I. He left for Brest, France on the U.S.S. *Passtora* and served aboard a submarine in France. John Strong vividly remembers surviving a torpedo missile attack by the Germans. The torpedo landed three or four feet away from the submarine that he was on and many sailors were killed as a result of the attack. Mess Attendant 3rd Class Strong was one of the few fortunate sailors to survive and he has never forgotten this incident. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Navy on September 25, 1919.

John Strong has since been a minister of the Gospel of the Jesus Christ Church. He entered into the ministry in 1929 and over the years has pastored in five churches. He was an active minister until 1998.

Mr. Speaker, I want to honor the Reverend Strong for his dedication to the U.S. Navy. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing John Strong many more years of continued success in life.

TRIBUTE TO WINSOME McLEAN-DAVIS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 1, 1999*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to my colleagues' attention the achievements of Ms. Winsome McLean-Davis.

Ms. McLean-Davis is currently the administrator for the Bishop Henry B. Hucles Episcopal Nursing Home which is a 240-bed skilled nursing facility in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. Through her leadership and pioneering spirit, the facility opened an adult day care program in April of this year. The Episcopal Nursing Home has also received a deficiency-free assessment from the Department of Health.

Winsome's contributions to our community go beyond her accomplishments in the successful operation of this nursing facility. As Vice President of her local block association, Winsome has focused on improving her community. In an attempt to develop community support groups, Winsome organized a summer program for children and youth. Currently, Winsome also serves as the Vice President of the Black Long Term Care Administrators' Association (BLTCA).

Our community has greatly benefited from Winsome's strong moral commitments. She credits her father, Curlin Thomas McLean, a trade union leader in Jamaica with instilling in her the principle that "investing in another's life is the real sign of true service." Her mother, Ruby, by example, continues to enforce

these values. Winsome completed her undergraduate and graduate studies at the University of the West Indies and Howard University. She completed post-graduate studies in gerontology at the Brookdale Center on Aging of the City University of New York.

Winsome is married to Kenneth Davis and they have a five-year-old son, Andrew. Ms. McLean-Davis is truly an inspiration to her fellow administrators and a pillar in her community. I commend her to my colleagues as an outstanding example of a community leader.

TRIBUTE TO CLAUDE C. STEWART, JR.

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 1, 1999*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Claude C. Stewart, Jr. Although he is no longer with us, his life stands as a testament to the value of hard work and a strong commitment to family. However, "June," as he is fondly known, liked to believe that he led an ordinary life.

He was born on September 7, 1923 in Union County, South Carolina. He was the 18th child of Claude C. Stewart, Sr. and Janie Means Stewart. Other than a 22 month stint serving in the U.S. Army during World War II, June spent most of his childhood and adult life in Columbia.

For more than 40 years, he worked for Johnson's Funeral Home and Palmer Memorial Chapel. However, "June" is best remembered for his service to the Columbia, South Carolina, Fire Department. In 1953, he was selected one of the first eight African Americans to work at the department. Hard work and dedication enabled June to rise through the ranks and become the first black Engineer, Captain, Battalion Chief and Assistant Chief. In June 1989, he retired as Assistant Chief after 36 years of service.

Outside work, "June" was a dedicated member of Second Calvary Baptist Church where he served on the Deacon Board. He was also a member of Masonic Lodge #47 and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Until his death, June was married to Bertha Williams Stewart for 46 years. They had two children. Their son, Claude David, predeceased his father. Their daughter, Claudette, married Leonard Hampton and has one son, Terrance Claude Hampton, whom "June" affectionately called his "Man."

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join with me and my fellow South Carolinians from the Columbia area as we pay tribute to Claude C. Stewart, Jr. "June" showed us how to turn the glory in an ordinary life into the extraordinary. He will be sorely missed.

TRIBUTE TO ANN MELLON

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 1, 1999*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of a great American, Ann Mellon, from my hometown, Worcester, Massachusetts. Ann was an amazing woman. She